

E-001682

Alternative Development Issues



Memorandum

Date: November 18, 1997

To: CALFED Policy Group

From: Lester A. Snow, Executive Director
CALFED Bay-Delta Program

Subject: Water Supply Opportunities

Background

This agenda item will include a description of assumptions and initial findings regarding potential water supply opportunities under the Program Alternatives. A discussion of several outstanding issues that affect potential water supply opportunities will be included.

Issues

Several issues are under evaluation which could have significant effects on the total potential water supply opportunities under the Program Alternatives. These issues include:

- Potential adjustments in Bay-Delta operating requirements (primarily export-inflow ratios and Delta outflow requirements) under the Program Alternatives.
- Total storage volume included in the Program Alternatives and rules for diversion in and out of storage.
- Potential effects of a "completely isolated" implementation of Alternative 3 (eliminating project diversions in the south Delta).

Initial Findings

An initial evaluation of potential water supply opportunities under various Bay-Delta Program Alternatives has been completed. The Department of Water Resources system operation model, DWRSIM, is the primary tool used in this evaluation. Using this model, SWP and CVP water deliveries may be estimated with various facilities and operating criteria in place. Total project deliveries are used as a basis for comparison. In application, new water supply could be reallocated to other water users or environmental purposes.

CALFED Agencies

California
The Resources Agency
Department of Fish and Game
Department of Water Resources
California Environmental Protection Agency
State Water Resources Control Board

Federal
Environmental Protection Agency
Department of the Interior
Fish and Wildlife Service
Bureau of Reclamation
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Department of Commerce
National Marine Fisheries Service

Existing Conditions and No Action simulations were conducted to serve as a basis of comparison. Under Existing Conditions, a 1995-level of upstream development and project demand is assumed. For the No Action simulation, a 2020-level is assumed. Estimated total project deliveries for these benchmark conditions are shown in Table 1.

Under the Program Alternatives, four primary actions have been identified that might provide new water supply opportunities. These actions and the estimated water supply benefits (in comparison to No Action) are shown in Table 2. Details of the assumptions behind these estimates and the cumulative effect of bundling these actions in complete Program Alternatives will be described at the Policy Group meeting.

Action Item

This item is included for information only in preparation for a more substantial discussion at the next Policy Group meeting.

Attachment